

TRINITY LUTHERAN

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Hymn of the Month “Joyful is the Dark” ACS #1096

Now the heavens start to whisper, as the veil is growing thin. Earth from slumber wakes to listen to the stirring, faint within: seed of promise, deeply planted, child to spring from Jesse’s stem! Like the soil beneath the frost line, hearts grow soft to welcome him.

We Pray For

We pray for Kenny Stroman; Barb Kunkel; Carla Boggs; Barb Allner; Diane Riediger; Bill Nagel; Ed Kunkel; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

For those battling cancer: Jayme Webb –breast cancer; Jeni Aman.

Rev. Paul Bengtson, (retired) former Assistant to the Bishop of Western Iowa, died Wednesday, November 26th. Services are pending.

Nancy Fick, Ann Hopp's sister, died Sunday, November 23rd.

Glen Hayworth, Brett Hayworth's father, died Friday, November 28th.

Please keep Paul's family, Ann and her family, and Brett and his family in your prayers.

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From the Pastor

My Dear Siblings in Christ,

It is December, another month has passed, and I am sitting at a computer at the last-minute writing this letter for the newsletter. The season is changing. Winter is most definitely here, and after a million and a half weeks (24 weeks) of Ordinary Time, the church enters the season of Advent.

Advent is a time of preparation. I am not always great at preparing and being ready for the next thing. I am always writing my bit for the newsletter in the last couple days. I recorded the video that will be part of the Western Iowa Synod's Advent Devotional the day that it was due. I was still cleaning and getting stuff ready for my parents' visit after they had arrived.

This year for our Wednesday Evening Advent Worship Services, I will be using a series that was prepared by Rev. Dr. Clayton Faulkner, the Dean of the Chapel of Wartburg Theological Seminary as part of The CaSTLE Project (Country and Small Town Lived Ecclesiology) (thecastleproject.org). The series is called "Waiting in Hope" Worship Practices that Form Us for Service.

This year, as with last year, we will only have 3 weeks of Advent Services. So, I will tell you about the Wednesday in the series that we will miss.

Week 1: Hope—Gathering as Expectation

Theme: "God Draws Near"

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7; Mark 13:33-37

Key Focus: The Gathering as a time of hopeful waiting for Christ's Coming.

Topics:

- Preparing for worship is a practice of hopefulness
- Our baptism creates a posture of alertness as we look for signs of God's presence.
- As God draws near to us, we are called to draw near to others in daily discipleship.

I am writing this letter right after finishing the first draft of my sermon for Sunday Nov. 30th. If I stick with that sermon, I talked about being prepared and expecting to encounter Christ in worship and in the world around us. When we worship, when we prepare to worship, we are invited into hopeful waiting, that we will experience the kingdom of God and Christ. We are invited to witness Christ in our world and to be Christ in the world for others.

Where do you see Christ in the world and in the dark times? When you are out about in your daily life, when and where do you see Christ? On my best days, and I do mean my best days, I see Christ in you, in everyone that I meet, in friends, in family, and in strangers.

Gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Ed

Birthdays

1 - Calan Lloyd
3 - Cade Alfredson
 Kellen Alfredson
6 - Kylie Thomas
7 - Ann Hopp
8 - Jade Davidson
 Janet Jansen
10 - Kyler Christiansen
 Kim Steffen
 Ryan Gilbert
11 - David Brosamle
 Brylee Koehler
 Rebecca Thomas
12 - Leann Henschen
16 - Janna Brandt
17 - Misti Hayes
 Forest Molland
 Deb Wilcke
18 - Leah Cross
19 - Steve Rippke
 Emily Sampson
 Jacey Bowman
26 - Denny Bain
27 - Steve Gray
28 - Gavin Cross
30 - Joe Bremer
 Jasper Rogers
 Jan Stroman
31 - Rebekah Healy

Anniversaries

3 - Paul & Laura Huth
12 - Chase & Chris Koehler
17 - Steve & Cindy Ploen
18 - Bryan & Annette Alfredson
23 - Rich & Tonya Flaugh

Thank you!

- November Worship Assistants
- Ruth Chartier for playing beautiful music for us during worship
- Everyone who helped with the soup and pie luncheon.
- All those who have donated snacks for KidZone

December Worship Assistants

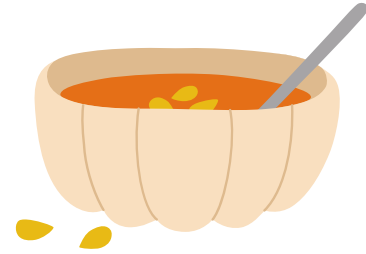
Organist: Ruth Chartier
Altar Guild: Roger & Susan Christiansen
Scripture Reader: Lisa Rippke
Offertory Accountants: Irv Martin & Denny Bain
Tech Assistant: Jill & Casey Stratton

What's going on at TLC?

Soup & Pie Luncheon



Trinity Lutheran had a successful soup and pie luncheon in November. Special thanks to all those who made delicious soups and pies and to those who volunteered their time!



KidZone Christmas Program

KidZone will be having their Christmas program on Sunday, December 14 at 9:00am. Following the program there will be a breakfast hosted by the Men's Group in the church basement.

If you plan on your child attending please email the church (tlchurchmoville@gmail.com) or contact Sadie (712-251-6457).

Annual Reports

It's the most wonderful time of the year, time for the annual report! If you are responsible for a report, please have it submitted to the office by Sunday, January 11th.

This date will approach faster than you think!



Christmas Eve Worship

Christmas Eve Worship will be held at 6:00 PM on Christmas Eve, December 24th.

All are welcome to join in on one of the most joyous worship services of the year!



TLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

Date: Sunday, Oct 5 , 2025

Present: Sonia Locke, Deb Wilcke, Blake Stratton, Roger Christiansen, Jill Stratton, Denny Bain, Cindy Ploen, Lynn Morgan, John Ringkob, Pastor Ed, Peggy Hopp

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Blake Stratton at 10:26AM.

Opening

Pastor's Report

Announce:

- Synod / ELCA updates
- Scott Dalen installed as Bishop of the Western Iowa Synod on Sept. 27th at St. John's in Council Bluffs.
- Yehiel Curry installed as Presiding Bishop of the ELCA on Oct. 4th at Central Lutheran in Minneapolis.
- Pastor Ed attended Tri-Synodical Fall Convo in Des Moines
- Additional announcements
- Oct. 12 - Intergenerational Service - Kidzone
- October 13-19 - Pastor Ed request off (will be available for emergencies)
- Nov. 2 - All Saints Sunday and Annual Soup and Pie Luncheon
- Nov. 19 - Lutheran Lakeside is sending 2 people to help/lead KidZone
- April 17-18, 2026 - Synod Assembly in Sgt. Bluff

Discuss/Follow-Up:

● Church building / Parsonage

- Parsonage Roof - flat dormer needs replaced - see motion in decide
- The shed has a ramp and is ready to be used, thank you Gene Wink!
- Fall clean up - Leaves, garden, etc. - Blake will talk to Michaela Nyreen

● Church Directory Update

- Would like pictures uploaded by the end of October

● Confirmation 2025-2026 - Volunteers please sign up on the ushers table - still a few Wednesdays available in the first half.

● Veterans Plaque Update: If you know anyone who needs added let us know.

TLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

- Secretary Position - Resignation letter from Sadie Stratton as Administrative Assistant of TLC. See motions in decide
- Changes to Portico Insurance Plans - see motion in decide

Decide:

- Motion made by Cindy Ploen, seconded by Deb Wilcke, to recommend the memorial fund to consider Walker Brothers Roofing to fix the dormer on the parsonage. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Cindy Ploen, seconded by Denny Bain, to accept the resignation of Sadie Stratton from church secretary and move forward in posting the position for 15-20 hours per week. Motion passed with 8 ayes and 2 nays.
- Motion made by Pastor Ed, seconded by Denny Bain, for the executive committee to look at the secretary job description as well as set the wage at \$13/hour with a 3% raise each year. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Roger Christiansen, seconded by John Ringkob, to choose the Select Copay 2000 plan for Pastor's insurance. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by John Ringkob, seconded by Deb Wilcke, to move forward with a quote to possibly change the lock on the front door. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Pastor Ed, seconded by Denny Bain, to approve September Council Meeting Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Denny Bain, seconded by John Ringkob, to approve the September Treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.
- Nov. Council Meeting is set for Sunday, Nov. 9 following worship.

Adjourn: Motion made by Denny Bain, seconded by Cindy Ploen, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:49AM.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Stratton, Council Secretary

DECEMBER

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM MIDWEEK ADVENT	4	5	6
7 COUNCIL MEETING 10:15 AM	8	9	10 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM MIDWEEK ADVENT	11	12	13
14 KIDZONE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 9:00 AM MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST FOLLOWING	15	16	17 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM MIDWEEK ADVENT	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 6:00 PM	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3